## ArcelorMittal USA LLC Law Department





January 17, 2012

## Via First Class and Electronic Mail

Michelle Kerr Remedial Project Manager U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 5 Superfund Division (SR-6J) 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-3590 kerr.michelle@epa.gov

> General Notice and Information Request for Re:

> > The Chemetco Superfund Site in Hartford, Illinois

Dear Ms. Kerr:

On behalf of ArcelorMittal Vinton, Inc. (f/k/a Border Steel, Inc.), this letter is in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") November 30, 2011 General Notice letter and December 20, 2011 informational meeting regarding the Chemetco Superfund Site ("Site"). The letter requests the potentially responsible parties ("PRPs") identified therein notify EPA of their interest in participating in future negotiations concerning investigation of the Site. Based on the meeting, I understand that EPA would like to receive this notification by January 17, 2012. I also understand that the due date for the response to the information request included in EPA's General Notice letter is currently February 3, 2012, although an extension may be available on a case-bycase basis, which we may request.

EPA's General Notice letter states that Border Steel may be liable under CERCLA for environmental issues at the Site. At this time, ArcelorMittal Vinton denies any liability of any kind for any issue arising out of the Site, and reserves all rights and defenses to such liability that may be available under CERCLA and other applicable laws. Without waiving any of their rights and defenses, and without admitting any liability in connection with the Site; however, ArcelorMittal Vinton is in the process of reviewing any records it or its former subsidiaries may have relating to

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the Site and is willing to discuss with EPA that information as soon as it is compiled. In addition, I just received a CD from EPA with general information about the Site and will be reviewing that as well. I have not yet received EPA's response to our FOIA request concerning Border Steel's alleged involvement at the Site. As soon as those activities are complete, ArcelorMittal Vinton will consider to what extent, if any, they may be willing to participate in future response actions at the Site.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely Yours,

Christina L. Archer

Associate General Counsel

cc: Thomas Martin, EPA Associate Regional Counsel (via email only, martin.thomas@epa.gov)